Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 AID-05 /080 W

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R 090937Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6408

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA

AMEMBASSY KIGALI

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY LOURENCO MARQUES

/AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM 1146

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL CAPETOWN

AMEMBASSY BANGUI

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

UNCLAS KINSHASA 1142

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: PINT, CG

SUBJECT: PRESS COMMENTARY ON GOVERNMENT RESHUFFLE

REF: (A) KINSHASA 8066 (SEPT 14, 1975) (B) KINSHASA 1045

1. ALL THREE DALIES (SALONGO, ELIMA, AZAP) FEB. 5 COMMENTED EXTENSIVELY ON GOVERNMENT RESHUFFLE. FOCUS OF BOTH SALONGO AND AZAP EDITORIALS WAS ON FACT THAT THOSE DROPPED FROM POLITICAL BUREAU (11) AND EXECUTIVE COUNCIL (7) TO BE ASSIGNED TO DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS OR OTHER FUNCTIONS. UNCLASSIFIED

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REASON FOR THIS DECISION ACCORDING TO COMMENTARIES, WAS

TO STIMULATE GOZ'S FOREIGN POLICY AND TO PROPAGATE ABROAD PHILOSOPHY MOBUTISM. IN PARTICULAR THEY WOULD REPLACE SOME OF CURRENT AMBASSADORS WHO HAVE LOST TOUCH WITH EVENTS IN ZAIRE. ALSO FORMER POLITICAL BUREAU AND EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEMBERS WILL BE BETTER ABLE TO REPRESENT GOVERNMENT, HAVING LIVED AND WORKED CLOSE TO THE SOURCE. DIPLOMACY THUS WILL HAVE NEW FORCE. EDITORIALS DID NOT SPELL OUT REASON FOR SHIFTS EXCEPT TO SAY THAT THEY WERE RELATED TO ECONOMIC PROBLEMS, CLOSING OF BENGUELA RAILROAD, SOVIET-CUBAN AGGRESSION, ALL OF WHICH SUBJECTED GOZ DIPLOMACY TO GREAT DIFFICULTIES.

2. ELIMA ON OTHER HAND SUGGESTS SHAKEUP FURTHER IMPLEMENTATION OF STABILIZATION PROGRAM ANNOUNCED BY MOBUTU NOV 25. EDITORIAL ATTACKS UNSPECIFIED INDIVIDUALS FOR MISMANAGEMENT OF THE ECONOMY AND NOTES REMODELING OF POLITICAL BUREAU'S POWER STRUCTURE WILL NOT ONLY INCREASE EFFICIENCY OF GOVERNMENT ORGANS BUT INSURE STABILIZATION PROPERLY CARRIED OUT. POLITICAL BUREAU WILL NOW SERVE AS "LABORATORY" OF NATION, TO ANALYZE AND STUDY DEVELOPMENT OUESTIONS, IT THUS BECOMES A MORE ACTIVE BODY WHICH SHOULD REASE MORIBUND IMAGE IT PREVIOUSLY HELD. THOSE WHO REMAIN ON POLITICAL BUREAU SHOULD NOT, HOWEVER, TAKE THEIR JOBS LIGHTLY, BUT SHOULD EXAMINE THEIR CONSCIENCE AND CORRECT PAST ERRORS. SURPRISE WAS EXPRESSED AT RETENTION OF SOME MEMBERS OF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL WHO HAD LONG BEEN DISMISSED BY PUBLIC OPINION. THEY TOO SHOULD NOT BE COMPLACENT. **CUTLER**

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Message Attributes

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